



**First Presbyterian Church of Defiance**

**October 15, 2023 - Ordinary Time**

**501 Washington Ave.**

**419-782-2781**

**Defiance, OH 43512**

**[www.1presby.com](http://www.1presby.com)**

***Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Defiance.  
As you enter this holy space, please enter with reverence,  
respecting those who are preparing for worship.***

**GATHER**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Monday: 10 am Coat collecting around the church plus any from barrels**

**Wednesday: WeKirk & Youth**

**PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. Open us to your life-giving Word. Quiet the voices within us that do not align with your will. Focus our minds on the message you intend for us so we may faithfully discern your way. Amen.

**PRELUDE**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Whenever we worship

**P: Let us worship together**

L: Whenever we gather

**P: Let us gather in God's name**

L: Whenever we pray

**P: Let us pray for each other**

L: And whenever we meet

**P: Let us meet as Christ's body, Christ's people, Christ's loving community.**

**\*HYMN 401**

**GATHER US IN**

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ's invitation. Let us seek God's forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

### **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of perfect love, you continually bring forth life, transforming sadness to joy, and despair to hope.

We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. We are seldom right, but you are never wrong. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.

Forgive us, redeem us, transform us. Take away the sin that burdens us, and restore us to the people you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

### **\*SILENT CONFESSION**

### **\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

Good news! Relentlessly, God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, God seeks us out. This is the good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

### **\*THE PEACE**

L: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**P: And also, with you.**

L: Please share Christ's peace with one another

### **\*HYMN 582**

### **GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME**

### **HEAR**

**WeKIRK WORD**

**THE EXODUS**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**PHILIPPIANS 4**

**HOMILY**

**WHATSOEVER**

### **RESPOND**

### **\*HYMN 654**

### **IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL (SING TWICE)**

### **CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

*We will continue to receive our offering at the entrance/exits of the sanctuary. On communion Sundays, 1/2 of the loose offering is received for the Deacons. We are still receiving the Peacemaking and Global Witness offering.*

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

### **INVITATION**

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And also, with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**COMMUNION:** *Come forward. If you wish to be served, please alert someone and we will bring communion to you.*

**\*HYMN 526**

**LET US TALENTS & TONGUES EMPLOY**

**\*BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Liturgy today adapted from Presbyterian Outlook, written by John Wurster, pastor at St Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Craig Richards, Wilma Sponsler & daughter, Helen, Lynn Peters, Alton Myers, Sheron Lee, Scott Solether, Jack Hess, Dave Roth (Youkers), Foyle & Karen Solether, Dick (Wilma Sponsler), Bill Kerr (Norm Wasson), Nancy Black, Floyd Culver, Karen Barber, Karl Leckrone, Raegan Wonderly, Alan Heinrichs (Wasson *cousin*)